

THE OneSource CONNECTION



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Visit www.militaryonesource.com or Call 1-800-342-9647

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If you interested in receiving this newsletter, please contact Opal Moore-Harris, Military OneSource Program Manager, by Email, opal.moore.harris@militaryonesource.com.



TurboTax®
OVER 197,825
RETURNS FILED

Within the first six weeks of Military OneSource's offer of free access to Turbo Tax software, over **197,825** Service members and families have filed their taxes online. According to Department of Defense officials, as Wage and Earning Statements (W2's) are delivered to all service members worldwide, this number is soaring.

TurboTax is America's most popular tax preparation package and electronic filing system. DoD purchased free online access to enable Active Duty, Guard and Reserve (regardless of activation status) and their family members as well as deployed DoD civilians and their families to use their 1040EZ and Deluxe (all 1040 forms) packages at no cost.

To access this free software, users need to visit the Military OneSource website (www.militaryonesource.com). This simple, secure, step-by-step system allows users to save, print and send completed tax forms electronically to the Internal Revenue Service. IRS sends confirmation of receipt and speeds tax returns to electronic filers.

In addition to offering this TurboTax resource, Military OneSource connects users by phone to tax preparation professionals, certified financial counselors and public accountants for tax advice at no cost. These counselors can be reached at 1-800-342-9647. Additional phone numbers for those living overseas, non-English speakers, and individuals with disabilities can be found on the Military OneSource website.

Military OneSource is a 24/7 virtual extension of local military base support services. For those requesting in-person financial education, counseling or tax assistance, Military OneSource can make referrals to on-base programs offered by Family Centers and VITA (Volunteers in Tax Assistance) tax preparation programs coordinated by military Legal Assistance Offices.

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WHAT'S NEW

Preparing for a Smooth Move...

Finding a Job After Moving as a Military Family

Finding a job in a new community can be stressful for anyone facing the challenge of living in a new place. But finding it can be especially challenging for military spouses who must move often as a normal part of military life.

Challenges you may face

As a military spouse, you may face some challenges unique to military life as you look for employment. These can include

- Your spouse's unpredictable work hours. The unpredictable schedules commonly required of service members can make it difficult for military spouses to rely on their partners for child care or other household needs.
- Frequent relocation. Frequent relocation can be disruptive to a career. There is no guarantee that a job in a certain industry or one that uses certain skills will be available in the new community.
- Your spouse's absences. It can be difficult to find and keep a job outside the home when you are the one taking care of the children and managing the details of home life.
- Geographic location. Depending on where you relocate, job opportunities can be scarce.
- Transportation options. This can be particularly challenging in rural areas where there is no public transportation, as many military families share a single car.

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Employer bias. Employers, particularly in civilian communities, are sometimes hesitant to hire a person associated with the military for fear that person will only be working for a short period of time.

Looking for employment

There are steps you can take before and after the move to prepare for your search:

- Before you move, update your resume and print plenty of copies.
- Hand carry your resumes to your new duty station instead of packing them.
- Think about whether you're interested in working on or off base.

On base

Once you've arrived and have settled in to your new community, there are a number of ways to look for job opportunities:

- Contact the Family Member Employment Assistance Program (FMEAP) or Spouse Employment Assistance Program (SEAP).
- Pay attention to deadlines and requirements for any listings you find.
- Attend a spouse's club. It can be a great opportunity to meet new people and to network.
- Go to a job fair on base. These can be great sources of information. Be sure to bring plenty of resumes.
- Make an appointment to talk with the family service center.
- Find out if there are any job support networks.

Off base

If you're looking for employment off base, here are some things you can do:

- Check the local papers for job listings.
- Find out if there are any training or educational opportunities available to you.
- Learn as much as you can about your new community.
- Consider volunteering. If you can afford it, this can be a good way to gain valuable skills that can lead to paid positions.
- Sign up with a temp agency.
- Contact local school systems. They may be looking for substitute teachers.
- Consider starting your own home business.

The most important thing you can do while looking for a job is be flexible. You may not work in the same industry as your last job, but you may still be able to use many of the same skills while gaining valuable new ones for the future.

This article is a reprint of a portion of the Military OneSource Life Article entitled, **'Finding a Job After Moving as a Military Family'**. To view the entire article online visit the Military OneSource Web site: www.militaryonesource.com. On the home page go to **'How May We Help You?'**, select **'Personal & Family Readiness'**, **'Military Relocation'**, and **'Spouse Employment'**.

Resources for a Smooth Move

Find out everything you need to know about your new neighborhood before you move...



Introducing Your Personalized Relocation Report

- What are the demographics? • What is the crime rate?
- What about the school system? • What about employment?

If you're able to visit your local installation relocation office, you will receive assistance with many of your military relocation needs. Military OneSource can also provide some additional resources in your new community. Call today for a **"Know Your Neighborhood Report"** and receive customized research on topics such as housing, recreation and sports, child care facilities, and transportation. You may also receive a public school report and a chamber of commerce packet, all of which are at no cost to you.

Military OneSource is also a great resource especially for families that do not live near an installation or when you need assistance after business hours. There are many educational materials available to view or download and listen online. Or, if preferred the materials can be ordered by calling a consultant. All of the materials found on Military OneSource are pre-paid. That means free to you!

Visit www.militaryonesource.com online today to download these informative Life Articles for making a smooth move:

Overcoming Relocation Stress

Military Spouse Preference in Employment

Military Spouse Employment Work that Travels Well

Helping a Teenager Cope with Relocation

For more information call Military OneSource today:

From the U.S.: 1-800-342-9647

Overseas call: access code, 800-3429-6477

Overseas callers need to dial one of the following country access codes before dialing the overseas telephone number:

Europe: 00

Japan ITJ/IDC/NTT: 122-001-010 Japan KDD: 010

Korea S-Darcom: 002; Korea S-KT: 001;

Korea DSN: 550-2769

Overseas deployed or in remote areas can call collect: 484-530-5908

Military OneSource is brought to you by the Department of Defense. There is no cost associated with using this service, and best of all, it's available anytime of day, where ever you are. So get in touch with us today. We have consultants who speak Spanish and offer simultaneous translation into more than 150 other languages. Phones are TTY/TDD accessible. En español llame al 1-877-888-0727 TTY/TDD accessible 1-866-607-6794

OBSERVANCES IN MARCH

National Social Work Month
Red Cross Month
National Ethics Awareness Month
Women's History Month

The Origins of Women's History Month

Did you know the month of March is the honorary observance of Women's History Month, as designated in 1987 by the U.S. Congress, in recognition of women's many accomplishments throughout history? A variety of agencies, schools, and organizations observe the month by focusing on the "consistently overlooked and undervalued" role of American women in history. Libraries and communities promote special events that emphasize the achievements of women.

The significance of the month of March dates to the mid-19th century when, on March 8, 1857, a group of female garment workers in New York City staged a protest to demand better working conditions and pay. Police aggressively halted the demonstration, but several years later the determined women formed their own union. In 1911, March 19 was observed as International Women's Day (IWD) to acknowledge women's continuing struggle for recognition and rights. The date of IWD was changed to March 8 in 1921. In 1978 the schools of Sonoma county, California, named March Women's History Month as a means of examining women's history, issues, and contributions. The idea gained momentum, and in 1981 a congressional resolution proclaimed the week surrounding March 8 National Women's History Week. In 1986 the National Women's History Project played a significant role in the expansion of the observance to the entire month of March.

Other countries soon adopted similar month-long events. In 1992 Canada began celebrating Women's History Month. October was selected as the designated month to commemorate the so-called Persons Case, in which the Privy Council of England (then Canada's highest court of appeal) ruled in October 1929 that females were persons under the law, a decision that contradicted an earlier ruling of the Supreme Court of Canada. In March 2000 Australia began holding its own Women's History Month.

"National Women's History Month" *Encyclopædia Britannica* from Encyclopædia Britannica Premium Service.

<<http://www.britannica.com/eb/article?tocId=9125030>> [Accessed February 21, 2006]

Membership UPDATE!

Since December 2005 when the new registration process went live on the Military OneSource Web Site over
249,840
 new memberships were established!



COMING SOON...
To a Computer Near You

A Face-Lift for the Web Site

Military OneSource is working on giving the current Web Site a refreshed new look! Stay tuned for more details.

CONFERENCE CALENDAR

Military OneSource will be participating in the following conference:

- March 16-18, National Returning Veterans Conference, The Road Home: National Conference on Returning Veterans' and their Families' Behavioral Health, Washington, D.C.

To coordinate a Military OneSource briefing or a display for your conference or event, contact Mr. Robert Bransford at 781-756-0173 or via Email at Robert.bransford@militaryonesource.com.

This monthly newsletter is brought to you as a courtesy of the Army branch of Military OneSource. Your input and comments are important. Do you have a question, comment, suggestion, or idea for news story? Are you interested in submitting a news story? Please contact Opal Moore-Harris, Military OneSource Program Manager, by Email, opal.moore.harris@militaryonesource.com. We are ready to hear from you!

